

Amendments to the Claims

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (new): An optical module, comprising:

a rigid circuit carrier formed with a component-equipped surface and an opposite surface;

a non-packaged semiconductor element flip-chip-mounted on said component-equipped surface;

a lens unit disposed on said opposite surface of said circuit carrier, said lens unit including a lens holder and a lens assembly with at least one lens;

said circuit carrier having an opening formed therein for projecting therethrough electromagnetic radiation from said lens unit onto said semiconductor element;

at least one permanently flexible or springy element disposed between said lens holder and said circuit carrier for biasing said component-equipped surface of said circuit carrier away from said lens holder and against at least one stop element forming a form-lock relationship with said lens unit.

Claim 13 (new): The optical module according to claim 12, wherein said form-lock relationship is defined by positive-contact surface embodied on said stop element (13; 35).

Claim 14 (new): The optical module according to claim 12, wherein said stop element forms part of a snap-on connection.

Claim 15 (new): The optical module according to claim 14, wherein said stop element is formed by hooks disposed on said lens holder.

Claim 16 (new): The optical module according to claim 12, wherein said stop element forms a part of a screw or rivet connection.

Claim 17 (new): The optical module according to claim 16, wherein said stop element includes spacer bolts on said lens holder.

Claim 18 (new): The optical module according to claim 16, wherein said stop element includes screw holes formed in said lens holder.

Claim 19 (new): The optical module according to claim 12, wherein said permanently flexible or springy element has a rectangular or annular shape.

Claim 20 (new): The optical module according to claim 19, wherein said permanently flexible or springy element is a punched part.

Claim 21 (new): The optical module according to claim 12, wherein said permanently flexible or springy element contains thermoplastic elastomers (TPE) or silicon.

Claim 22 (new): The optical module according to claim 12, wherein said permanently flexible or springy element is configured to seal said lens unit against said circuit carrier.

Claim 23 (new): The optical module according to claim 12, wherein said permanently flexible or springy element is a porous sealing element.

Claim 24 (new): The optical module according to claim 13, wherein said permanently flexible or springy element is formed of foam rubber.

Claim 25 (new): An optical system, comprising at least one optical module according to claim 12.